

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 06266 031907Z

21

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 SP-02

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15

STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07

NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01

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R 031811Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1655

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

OECD PARIS 9085

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC, EGEN

SUBJECT: 61ST ECOSOC: ITEM 11, CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND  
DUTIES OF STATES

REF.: (A) STATE 189817; (B) GENEVA 6120; (C) GENEVA 6079

1. SUMMARY: THE MEXICAN RESOLUTION SETTING UP PROCEDURES FOR REVIEWING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CERDS WAS ADOPTED IN COMMITTEE BY VOTE OF 29-0-6(US), WITH THE U.S. MAKING A VERY BRIEF EXPLANATION. THE MEXICANS ACTUALLY SEEMED RELIEVED, HAVING FEARED A "NO" FROM US. END SUMMARY.

2. THE MEXICAN RESOLUTION ON CERDS QUOTED IN REFTEL C WAS ADOPTED BY SHOW-OF-HANDS BOTE OF 29-0-6(US) IN THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE ON AUGUST 2, THE USDEL HAVING ASKED THE CHAIRMAN BEFORE THE SESSION TO ANNOUNCE THAT "A DELEGATION" HAD  
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 06266 031907Z

REQUESTED A VOTE. THE ABSTENTIONS WERE BELGIUM, FRANCE, FRG,

JAPAN, UK AND US. AFGHANISTAN AND BANGLADESH, ARRIVING LATE, STATED THEY WOULD HAVE VOTED "YES".

3. THE US EXPLAINED ITS VOTE AS FOLLOWS: "MY DELEGATION HAS ABSTAINED ON THIS RESOLUTION BECAUSE OF OUR WELL-KNOWN POSITION ON THE CERDS. THAT POSITION HAS NOT CHANGED." THE UK MADE AN EXPLANATION FOR ALL SIX EC-9 MEMBERS, STRADDLING FOUR ABSTENTIONS AND TWO "YESES" (ITALY AND DENMARK), BY EXPRESSING REGRET THAT SINCERE EFFORTS BY THE NINE HAD NOT ACHIEVED AN AGREED CHARTER, RECOGNIZING THAT THE RESOLUTION WAS LARGELY PROCEDURAL, AND SUGGESTING THE DESIRABILITY OF WORKING FOR AGREEMENT. JAPAN SIMPLY STATED ITS POSITION REMAINED UNCHANGED. AUSTRALIA AND CANADA STATED THEIR SUPPORT OF THE RESOLUTION DID NOT IMPLY ANY CHANGE IN THEIR POSITIONS, AS DID COLOMBIA (WHICH HAD IN MIND ARTICLE 3 ON SHARED RESOURCES). BRAZIL STATED EXPLICITLY THAT ITS FAVORABLE VOTE MEANT NO CHANGE ON ARTICLE 3. MEXICO (BARCELO), AGAIN HAVING THE LAST WORD (AS ON NATURAL RESOURCES), ALLEGED THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS "SPECIAL CONSENSUS" IN SHOWING NO OPPOSITION TO THESE PROVISIONS ON IMPLEMENTING THE CERDS, AND HE HOPED THAT THE NEXT TIME THE GA TOOK UP THE CERDS UNDER ARTICLE 34 THERE WOULD BE FULL SUPPORT FOR ALL ITS ARTICLES.

4. THE EC-9 SPLIT OCCURRED WHEN THE ITALIAN DELEGATION, DESPITES ITS OWN NEGATIVE REACTION, SURPRISINGLY RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTE "YES", WHICH WERE REPEATED EVEN AFTER THE OTHER MEMBERS PERSUADED THE ITALIANS TO TRY AGAIN. DENMARK, WHICH PLANNED TO ABSTAIN BUT WHICH DOES NOT LIKE TO BE ON THE HARD SIDE OF ANOTHER MEMBER, THEN MOVED TO "YES". THERE WAS NO CHANCE OF PERSUADING ANY OF THE OTHER FOUR TO MOVE TO "NO" (DESPITE THE FRG'S MORE NEGATIVE VIEW), AS THEY HAD AGREED TO TAKE A COMMON POSITION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR INSTRUCTIONS.

5. THE MEXICAN DELEGATION IS QUITE SATISFIED WITH THE OUT-COME, AS WE DID NOT ATTEMPT TO DISABUSE THEIR FEARS THAT WASHINGTON MIGHT INSTRUCT US TO VOTE NO. HENCE THEY WERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 06266 031907Z

RELIEVED THAT WE HAD BEEN ABLE TO "PERSUADE" WASHINGTON TO AUTHORIZE AN ABSTENTION, THUS GIVING US A COUPLE OF POINTS THAT WE NEEDED FOR OUR ILLICIT PAYMENTS INITIATIVE. BARCELO DID MAKE A LAST EFFORT TO PERSUADE US TO GO ALONG WITH ADOPTION WITHOUT VOTE AND AN EXPLANATION THAT WE WOULD HAVE ABSTAINED HAD THERE BEEN A VOTE, BUT WE DECLINED.

6. IN THE COMMITTEE DEBATE ON THIS ITEM ON JULY 27, PRIOR

TO THE INTRODUCTION OF THE MEXICAN RESOLUTION ON JULY 29 BY EGYPT (REFTEL B), COUNTRIES SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE CERDS AND THE NEED FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION WERE ROMANIA, GDR, CUBA, USSR, ALGERIA, CHINA, VENEZUELA AND ARGENTINA. MOST LINKED IT CLOSELY WITH THE NIEO. ALGERIA SAID IT WOULD PRESENT TO THE NEXT GA A RESOLUTION CALLING ON ECOSOC TO CREATE A SPECIAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE REVIEWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CERDS, NIEO, ETC. SO AS TO ENABLE ECOSOC TO REPORT TO THE GA. VENEZUELA AND ARGENTINA SUPPORTED THIS IDEA AND THE LATTER, AFTER REFERRING TO UNCTAD'S REVIEW FUNCTION UNDER RESOLUTION 90(IV), UNDERLINED ECOSOC'S SUPERIOR ROLE IN THE REVIEW PROCESS SUBJECT TO THE GA. CATTO

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